

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: RALF WICHMANN *ET AL.*

SERIAL NO. TO BE ASSIGNED

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: BLEACH BATH

ART UNIT: TO BE ASSIGNED

EXAMINER: TO BE ASSIGNED

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231"EXPRESS MAIL" No. EK219526071 DATE: AUGUST 1, 2001

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PERSON MAILING PAPER OR FEE)*Carrie A. McPherson*
(SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAILING
PAPER OR FEE)5/4
D.C.
11-28-01PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculation and examination please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-15.

[Please add the following new claims.]

- 16. A bleach or bleach/fixing solution for processing photographic silver halide materials which, relative to the silver halide content of the unprocessed material, exhibit prior to the bleaching step, a content of silver arising from development of at least 65 mol%, and the solution comprises at least one iron complex of propylenediaminetetraacetic acid or of β -alaninediacetic acid or a mixture thereof and the total concentration of said iron complexes in the solution is at least 0.045 and at most 0.25 mol/l.